

# **Warren Conservation Commission Minutes**

**Meeting of June 16, 2014**

**Present:, Jane Harrison, Jeanne Leffers, Barbara Paroline Butch Lombardi, Jerry Belair and David Weed**

**Regrets: Wendy Brennen**

**Chair: Butch Lombardi**

**Next Meeting: July 21, 2014**

**The meeting was called to order 7:14 p.m. by Butch**

**Minutes – The May 14, 2014 minutes were corrected to show that we spent \$364.64 for food on Earth Day, which brought the total of expenses for the event to \$414.14 leaving us with \$585.86 in our Town account. There was also a correction to the minutes to read “barn owl at Lisle Farm” rather than “screech owl on Town property in the tree farm”. A motion to accept the minutes as corrected was made by Jane, seconded by Barbara, and all in favor to accept.**

**Budget report – Jerry reported on the Earth Day food expenses enumerated above. Motion to accept Jerry’s report was made by Barbara, seconded by Jane. and all voted in favor. Jeanne made a motion that we purchase a bike rack for less than the \$585.86 we have remaining for installation in some location accessible by bicycle. Jane seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. Dave will place the order.**

## **Correspondence – No correspondence**

### **Old Business:**

**1. Earth Day – See budget report above.**

**2. Speaker Program – Barbara heard from Scott Turner from Brown University, who writes for the Providence Journal, and learned that he is willing to lead a walk on October 18th. We could do a walk on the trail in the Audubon property in Touisset or the trail across from the Transfer Station. It was also noted that there was an article in today's Journal describing a bat "white nose" study going on in Warren. Butch will touch base with Audubon to be sure that a walk on the 18th will not interfere with any of their programs.**

### **3. Beautification –**

**a. Hugh Cole Well – Dave reported that he spoke with Judy Fardig to ask John about the stone bench construction progress but hasn't heard back from John.**

**b. Baker Street and Company Street – Baker Street has a lot of weeds. The planter appears to have been planted by the neighbors. Jane looked at Company Street and thought it was in o.k. shape but needs weed-whacking and planting. She suggested that stella d'oro daylilies**

would be good.

c. Open Space – The RI Senate took \$3million designated to buy open space out of this year's budget. The Town also did not include authorization to purchase open space in its budget this year.

4. Storm drain labeling – Jane, Jeanne, and Barbara will do labeling on Market Street after the next meeting.

5. Habitat projects:

a. Owl nests – Jerry and Butch still plan to put them up on Town property in the tree farm.

b. Bat house – Jerry and Butch will put this up, too.

c. Walking trails –Butch found a “trail” made by an ATV on Market Street conservation land.

6. Broken Bridge bike path – Wendy sent an email suggesting that we talk to Caroline to be sure that the Town Solicitor secures the needed easement for the project. Jane will email the Town Council to express our concern that we could lose the project if someone doesn't oversee it now that Caroline's position has been reduced to half-time.

## **New Business:**

**Water use fee structure - Jerry has drafted the letter to the Water Authority but needs more information on the rate structure for residential and commercial before he sends it.**

**Commissioners' Concerns – Butch suggested that we get the grill that we need for next year's Earth Day from the Rotary.**

**A motion was made by Jerry and seconded by Barbara that we adjourn at 8:50 p.m. All voted in favor.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**David Weed**

**Recording Secretary**